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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nishikata, et al.) Group Art Unit 1615
Appl. No. : 09/147,861)
Filed : March 17, 1999)
For : **COATED POWDER AND**)
COSMETIC PREPARED BY)
BLENDING THE SAME)
Examiner : Pulliam, A.)

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2001, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following arguments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

Claim 7. (Amended) A method of applying natural coloring on a surface by using a coated powder, comprising the steps of:

designing composition of the coated powder wherein a core powder is coated with at least first and second coating layers, by determining a quantity of the first coating layer and a quantity of the second coating layer based on a correlation between the degree of linear transmission and the quantity of each layer, to impart a predetermined degree of linear light transmission, said coated powder permitting nearly 100% total light transmission, the core powder having a refractive index of 1.3 to 1.8, the first coating